

## House Resolution No. 1235

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to recognize such outstanding religious and cultural organizations as the Jewish Federation of Saint Louis at momentous times in their histories; and

**Whereas**, on April 3, 2008, the Jewish Federation of Saint Louis will celebrate Yokne'am-Megiddo Sister City Day in light of the Israeli region's special relationship with the Saint Louis Partnership 2000 program; and

**Whereas**, the history of the city of Yokne'am can be traced to a Canaanite city taken by Joshua during his campaign to conquer the ancient land of Israel; and

**Whereas**, today Yokne'am enjoys an excellent reputation as the "Silicon Valley" of northern Israel, the first "green" city in Israel through a combination of urban lifestyle and nature, a holder of a National Prize for Educational Excellence, and the fastest growing community in Israel (it has doubled in size and population since the beginning of the Partnership 2000 sister-city program); and

**Whereas**, Yokne'am enjoys a diverse population made up of veteran residents of the Middle East, immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, and Israeli-born young families; and

**Whereas**, Megiddo likewise has developed and maintained an impressive reputation for having one of Israel's largest forested open areas within an urban environment, nearby multigenerational rural communities, and a rich cultural and historical heritage; and

**Whereas**, Megiddo is universally praised as a lay-driven UNESCO Biosphere Region that aims to improve the relationship of people with their environment, to reduce biodiversity loss, to improve livelihoods, and to enhance social, economic, and cultural conditions related to environmental sustainability:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with the Jewish Federation of Saint Louis and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they celebrate Yokne'am-Megiddo Sister City Day; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to the Jewish Federation of Saint Louis.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Jake Zimmerman  
District No. 83

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,  
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House  
Resolution No. 1235, adopted March 25, 2008.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker